



NEWS RELEASE

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Attorney Sentenced for Smuggling Drugs into Jail

An attorney who pleaded to smuggling \$30,000 worth of heroin inside a greeting card to a client in county jail was sentenced today to two years in custody, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

Stephen Beecher, 63, was sentenced by Los Angeles County Superior Court Judge Craig Veals in BA409719. The Sherman Oaks resident was taken into custody to begin serving his sentence. He pleaded no contest in December to one felony count of bringing drugs into jail.

Deputy District Attorney Arisa Mattson with the Justice System Integrity Division is prosecuting the case.

Beecher's co-defendant, Jesus Antonio Duenas, returns to Department 100 on Feb. 26 to begin trial. Beecher, who was representing Duenas at the time, admitted slipping packages of heroin to Duenas who was incarcerated in county jail on Dec. 28, 2012.

The Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department investigated the case.

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About the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office

Los Angeles County District Attorney Jackie Lacey leads the largest local prosecutorial office in the nation. Her staff of nearly 1,000 attorneys, 300 investigators and 800 support staff members is dedicated to seeking justice for victims of crime and enhancing public safety. Last year, the [Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office](http://da.lacounty.gov) prosecuted more than 71,000 felony defendants and nearly 112,000 misdemeanor defendants.